

April 7, 1978

LB 821, 695

PRESIDENT: Senator Rumery.

SENATOR RUMERY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to have unanimous consent to withdraw this bill. We have taken care of the provisions in an appropriation bill so we no longer need this bill.

PRESIDENT: I am sure if we just pass over it, it will die of its own at the end of the session. You want no action on it, then? Is that all right, Pat? We then go on to LB 695.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 695 was a bill introduced by Senator Ernie Chambers of the 11th District. Title read. The bill was read on January 6th of this year. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee. It was advanced to General File. There are committee amendments pending, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this is a bill which grew out of the special...

PRESIDENT: We have committee amendments, I think, first. Senator Barnett.

SENATOR BARNETT: I will just move the adoption of the committee amendments and then you can talk about the bill.

PRESIDENT: All right. Would you want to handle both the committee amendments and the bill, then, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Let me see what the committee amendments were. Yes, I would agree to the adoption of the committee amendment and then that can be incorporated into my explanation of the bill. This grew out of the special study committee which was looking into problems related to the State Patrol and other associated matters. One of the severe difficulties that surfaced was the utilization of various law enforcement agencies of people who were on parole, currently on probation or who were inmates of a correctional or penal facility. Now the ones who would be most interested in this piece of legislation would be Colonel Karthouser, Superintendent of the State Patrol, Mr. Joseph Vitek, who is the Director of Corrections and John Greenholtz, who is the Chairman of the Board of Parole. None of these people are opposed to this bill. As a matter of fact, Mr. Greenholtz spoke in behalf of the concept of this bill and Colonel Karthouser has assured me on a number of occasions, one of them at a gathering of various police officials where I gave a talk, that he is in favor of what the bill does. There was the possibility that with the wording of the bill as it is it could appear that a person on parole or probation could not be employed in any capacity by a law enforcement agency. An amendment was drafted which will be added on Select File which will make it clear that this bill only relates to these individuals when they are in the actual status of being on parole, on probation or currently an inmate. That is what the bill does and it has been approved by all of those connected with law enforcement who would be affected

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